# MONTEREY NEWS

**September 2011**
**VOLUME XLI · Number 9**


## The Town

*by Maggie Leonard*

### Cell-phone Towers

The Monterey Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is considering two applications for special permits for two proposed cell-tower sites in Monterey, one at 31 Main Road and the other at 73 Chestnut Hill Road. AT&T is the service provider for both proposed towers, and, in accordance with the telecommunications bylaw, an advertised balloon float test was for held each site (August 11 and 20) to provide a visual reference for where the towers will be visible.

The first public hearing was held by the ZBA on August 17. A small crowd of interested citizens as well as representatives from various town boards and emergency personnel joined ZBA members Bob Lazzarini, Cynthia Weber, Jon Levin, Stan Ross, and chair Fred Chapman to hear the application for a special permit for North Atlantic Towers and AT&T. The ZBA has retained consultant Richard Comi of The Center for Municipal Solutions, a company that specializes in helping towns with technical issues involved in cell-tower siting.

Chapman opened the meeting by noting that the annual town meeting had approved revisions to the current telecom-

*River Road Bridge, upstream side, Hurricane Irene, Sunday, August 28, 11:30 am. Director of Operations Maynard Forbes reports there were 6.59 inches of rain that day. (Photo: Glynis Marsh)*

municications bylaw, but that the Attorney General's office had not yet received the proposed new bylaw. Chapman reserved the ZBA's right to make changes in its decisions if necessitated by the Attorney General's bylaw review. Town Clerk Linda Thorpe said she was not certain why the Attorney General's office had not received the bylaw. Subsequent emails confirmed that the bylaw had been received by Thursday August 25, and that the review will be expedited.

ZBA Clerk Cynthia Weber read letters submitted by the Board of Health, the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board, the Highway Department, the Police Chief, and the Monterey Fire Company regarding their findings on the application, which seeks a special permit to site a cell tower at 31 Main Road and requests several waivers from the telecommunications bylaw, including a waiver from the 25-foot clearing restriction, as well as seeking a variance to site the 160-foot tower 60 feet from the property line. The various town boards were united in their concern about the length and steepness of the access road and subsequent erosion and drainage onto adjacent properties and Route 23/Main Road, and the request to change the required setback from 240 feet (1½ times tower height to any property line) to sixty feet. Several letters requested that Monterey emergency services personnel be granted permission to place their antenna on the proposed tower at no charge.

*River Road swimming hole, Sunday, August 28, 11:10 am. (Photo: Glynis Marsh)*

The ZBA's consultant, Richard Comi, introduced his company, The Center for Municipal Solutions of Glenmont, NY, which has been operating since 1997. They consult nationwide for municipalities dealing with cell-tower applications and have no affiliation with either tower companies or cell-phone-service providers.

The attorney for AT&T, Michael Dolan, gave a brief history of the project, noting that AT&T has been aware there is a "significant gap" in cell-phone coverage in Monterey and that "AT&T has been working to obtain coverage in this area for many years."

AT&T's engineer, Francis Malabanan, presented maps and propagation studies showing the cell-phone coverage that would be provided by the proposed towers. Malabanan stated that due to the topography it is difficult to provide seamless cellular coverage in Monterey. Richard Comi asked why AT&T needs twice the power in New England that


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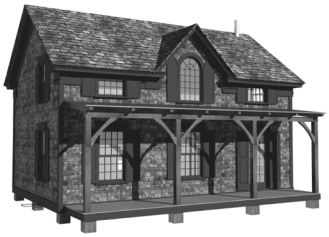

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*New Marlborough Road (or is it Rawson River?) near John Sellew's driveway, looking toward Harmon Road intersection, Sunday, August 28. (Photo: John Sellew)*

it needs in Peoria, Illinois (where he is working on another cell-tower application). Malabanan said that the power levels indicated in the application are typical for AT&T operating in the Northeast.

Infinigy Engineering's A. J. Desantis was grilled about the long, steep access road to the proposed tower-compound site. He fielded questions regarding drainage and heard feedback about the plans, which were described as "minimal" and "inadequate" by the various town boards and Director of Operations Maynard Forbes. The Building Commissioner, Don Torrico, voiced concern that the road provide adequate access for emergency vehicles during the construction phase when the greatest number of people are likely to be on site.

To support North Atlantic Tower's requested waiver from the 25-foot clearing limitation, Desantis explained that a larger clearing would provide more space for the equipment shelters and facilitate colocation on the tower for the antennas of other service providers, mitigating the need for additional towers in Monterey in the same area.

Before the hearing adjourned, AT&T's attorney reviewed the list of additional information requested by the ZBA, including: a plan showing the tower at various heights and out of the setback without the need for a variance; a plan for underground utilities where it is possible; and a plan showing increased drainage to prevent erosion on abutting properties and flooding and icing on Main Road. The hearing will be continued on Monday, September 26, at 2 pm.

The second ZBA hearing was held before a smaller audience on Wednesday, August 24, for a proposed 136-foot cell tower at 73 Chestnut Hill Road. AT&T proposes to lease a 100 x 100-foot area from the owner of the 104-acre property, New England Keswick, which operates a summer camp and hosts groups year round. The property is a large parcel of land with the proposed tower location in a remote and heavily wooded section in the northwest corner. All buildings associated with the camp are in the southeast section of the property and are over 1,000 feet from the proposed tower site. If approved, the site will require a road of just under ½ mile (2,400 feet).

The applicants were AT&T's now-familiar attorney Michael Dolan and engineer Francis Malabanan, joined by new guy (for this project) John Lawrence, an engineer from Centerline Engineering. Town boards and officers again submitted letters of finding. >

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*Susan Sellew's driveway, Rawson Brook Farm, Sunday, August 28. (Photo: John Sellew)*

The ZBA had many concerns, including the length and narrowness of the road and lack of a turnaround, the proximity of the proposed tower site to land protected by Berkshire Natural Resources Council, the request to use aboveground utilities instead of burying them, and the ability to keep the road clear in the winter. Lawrence noted that parts of the northern portion of Chestnut Hill Road he had traveled that day were no wider than the 10 feet proposed by the plans. ZBA member Jon Levin laughed and noted that that portion of the road is closed in the winter! On the advice of consultant Comi, the ZBA requested that more information be provided about the height of the tower to assure that it is the minimum height necessary.

The hearing was continued until 4 pm on Monday, September 26, the same day as the hearing for 31 Main Road.

## School Budget

After three months of impasse, Sheffield voted on August 10 to approve its budget assessments for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District. A minimum of four of the five member towns in the district must approve the budget for it to pass. Both Sheffield and New Marlborough voted down the budget at their town meetings in May. In the wake of the defeats the School Committee made $56,500 in cuts to the budget and agreed to use $100,000 in reserve funds to further reduce the assessment for all five member towns. This brought Sheffield's assessment to $5.8 million, the amount that was agreed on in their May town meeting. Sheffield's approval left New Marlborough odd man out since the requirement for budget approval by four towns was fulfilled.

At their special town meeting on August 11, New Marlborough voted to approve their $2.2 million assessed portion of the school district budget. However, even with the cuts made to the school budget, New Marlborough still needed to pass a Proposition 2½ override to raise the necessary funds. The override was voted down on Friday August 12, and now leaders in New Marlborough are looking to make cuts to the town budget to fulfill their school budget obligations.

## Council on Aging

At their August 1st meeting the Select Board appointed Michael Johnson to the Council on Aging (COA) for a three-year term. The COA has recently lost several


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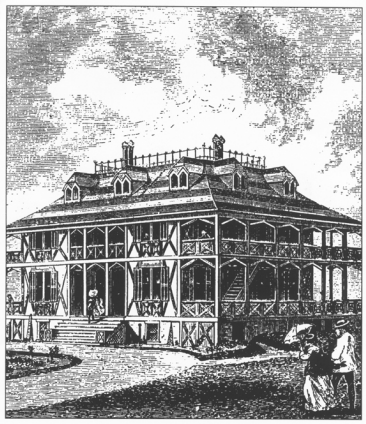

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members due to a town bylaw that terms not exceed four years. This means that a single term cannot exceed four years, but in no way limits how many terms may be served, so the exodus of former COA members may have been unnecessary. The Select Board is considering rewording the bylaw to remove any ambiguity and confusion about terms, and also to open positions on the COA to nonresidents of Monterey.

Michael Johnson, who is also a member of the Monterey Police Department, has a lot of great ideas about how to re-energize the COA. After reviewing the COA budget with Town Accountant Steve Pullen, Johnson discussed his ideas with the Select Board at their August 8th meeting; he suggested a senior Wii bowling league (this is electronic or virtual bowling and anyone can do it) and other Wii sports like tennis and golf, senior luncheons, or a mini jazz festival since the music nights at the General Store are no more. There was some confusion about the budget available because the Select Board thought that $5,000 of the approximately $6,000 in the account is allocated for the Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation fund.

## Transfer Station

Steve Pullen, the town accountant, met with the Select Board to discuss the FY 2011 Revenue Report, and to let them know that the transfer station was $4,120.77 over budget. Select Board member Scott Jenssen said that although $28,000 was collected from dump stickers, those sales only generate enough revenue to cover one-fourth of the operating cost.

Director of Operations Maynard Forbes met with the Select Board on August 8 to review a preliminary sketch of a redesign for the transfer station. To comply with a mandate from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the station must cover all the containers, and money for the redesign and engineering was allocated at the town meeting.

Both Forbes and Jenssen spent time observing the traffic flow, or lack thereof, at the transfer station, and noted that when people park to dispose trash and then linger to browse the swap shed or chat with neighbors, traffic is blocked. Jenssen said that he requested the attendant to ask people to move their cars when they have disposed of their trash. Forbes said that before the design is finalized he will consult with the Center of Ecological Technology (CET).

## Town Employees

Throughout August the Select Board has been reviewing town employee compensation and benefits including sick time, personal time, vacation time, holidays, health insurance, co-pays, and prescription policies. Interdepartmental Secretary Melissa Noe compiled a chart with comparisons to other towns in the southern Berkshires including Otis, Tyringham, Sheffield, New Marlborough, Egremont, and Stockbridge. Select Board member Jon Sylbert stated that Monterey's policies should be in line with other towns in the area. The Select Board asked Noe to get more information on sick time and whether other towns allow that time to accrue and be cashed in later, or whether the benefits last only for the fiscal year, and also to find out if any of those towns have unions. Since various members have been on vacation this month, the Board has deferred discussion on the matter until August 29 when they will have a quorum.

## Police Report

Police Chief Gareth Backhaus discussed with the Select Board the joint letter he and FireChief Shawn Tryon wrote to the ZBA requesting that if the special permits are approved for the cell towers the emergency services in Monterey would like to place a repeater and radio equipment on the tower to improve emergency communication by improving radio dead spots.

Chief Backhaus reported the following Police Department activity from July 25–August 22:

- Assisted citizen with information needed for registry.

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*Curtis Road, looking toward bridge from Main Road, Sunday, August 28, noon. (Photo: Glynis Marsh)*

- Follow-up on No Trespass Order on Hupi Rd.
- Suspicious activity investigated on Main Rd.
- Suspicious activity reported on Mt Hunger Rd; turned out to be someone removing a hornet's nest.
- Investigating complaints between neighbors on Tyringham Rd.
- Vandalism reported on Tyringham Rd.
- Report of a found boat; owners will be contacted.
- Assisted Great Barrington Police.
- Report of excessive dog barking on Hupi Rd; police waited in the area for 30 minutes and did not hear any dogs.
- Assisted a citizen on Lime Rock Lane.
- Suspicious activity reported at intersection of Hupi & Tyringham.
- Follow-up on a restraining order on West Rd.
- Dingy found near the beach. Dean Amidon is following up.
- Follow up on harassment complaint on Hupi Rd. Citizen was advised not to take matters into own hands and to call the police with any complaints.
- Past B&E follow-up investigation on Main Rd.
- Assisted a citizen with contacting the NMPD.
- Loose pigs and a dog returned to owner.
- Assisted a citizen with a VIN ID.
- Follow-up on found boat, Bracken Brae
- Complaint of jet skis blocking boat ramp at Lake Buel; officer informed the party of 5 that they could not park their chairs and block the boat ramp.
- Investigating a B&E on Worth Lane
- Assisted another agency with arrest.
- Person reported an erratic driver on Rt. 23 complaining of medical issues; police searched from the town hall to the Otis town line as well as Tyringham Rd and Rte 57 and did not find the vehicle.
- Loose dog at John's garage returned to the owner.
- Assisted with medical call, Main Rd.
- Summons served on Hupi Rd.
- Assisted citizen with a stolen outboard motor police report.
- Caller reported a lost wedding band at the Lake Garfield beach. Flyers posted.
- Call requesting assistance with injured animal on Hupi Rd; second call cancelled request.
- Call complaining of vehicle parked on Blue Hill Rd creating a hazard; police found the owners who were walking their dog and agreed to move the vehicle.
- Suspicious activity reported on Hupi Rd; police responded and the vehicle left as requested.
- Escorted party with severe abdominal pain to the hospital.
- Assisted citizen on Blue Hill Rd with three loose horses.
- House check on Beartown Mtn Rd.


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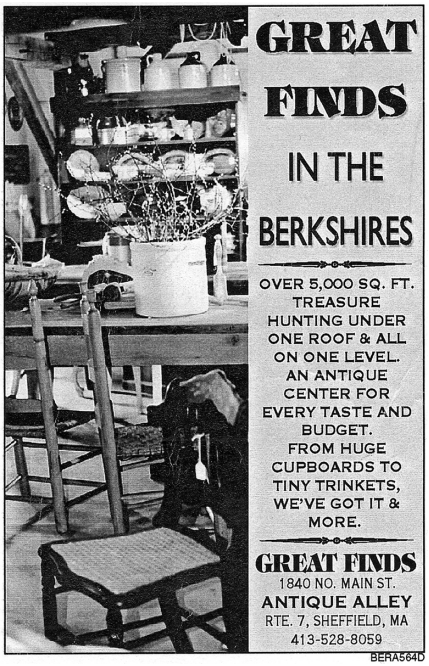
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- Assisted with medical call, Gould Farm.
- Suspicious activity reported on Blue Hill Rd; nothing out of ordinary found.
- Vehicle stop ended in arrest for unlicensed operation of motor vehicle.
- Possible mountain lion sighting reported on Stevens Lake Way; police investigated but did not locate the cat.
- The new cruiser is up and running.
- False Alarms: Monterey Library, Mt Hunger Rd., Main Rd. (2), Sackman Way.
- Seven citations Issued.

## Highway and Operations

Director of Operations Maynard Forbes provided the following schedule for paving Route 23: paving to be done on Wednesday, August 31, through Friday, September 2, and a finish coat on September 12 through 14. All are weather dependent, and the schedule may change without notice. The Highway Department apologizes for any inconvenience and thanks the public for their patience. (Obviously hurricane damage on August 28 may cause this schedule to change.)

Forbes reviewed the three bids for paving Main Road; based on his recommendation, the low bid of $393,488.22 from Williams Paving was approved by the Select Board.

The Select Board signed the Chapter 90 request forms for Beartown Mtn Road. The project will include replacing the culvert near the dam and repairing the drainage. Blacktop/repaving will be done next summer. Currently Monterey has approximately $400k in Chapter 90 funds.

Forbes reported on the following activities from July 25–August 15:

- Checking roads and beaver ponds. Culvert on Sandisfield Rd. needed to be cleaned out 7x.
- Fill in cut with gravel on Main Rd. 2x per week.
- Wilson House driveway; apron paved, seeded, and mulched around driveway.
- Bank repaired, Main Rd. & River Rd.
- Service and repair the OshKosh.
- Main Rd., Strap Grant project, drainage and bids for reclamation and paving.
- Repair shoulder on Blue Hill Rd. near Kuhner property.
- Repair dump body on Chevy 4500.
- Repair quickconnect on excavator.
- Take 2 plows for sandblasting and repainting.
- Repair overhead wire at transfer station.
- Grade and roll Fairview, Swan, Griswold, and Mt Hunger Roads.
- Cut up and remove tree, Mt Hunger Rd.
- Close Chestnut Hill for a tree down.
- Check on downed tree, Main Rd.
- Repair grill on Loader OshKosh: brakes and service in NY.
- Haul airport mix from Otis.
- Mow intersections.
- Clean out ditches and replace hay bales on Fairview Rd.
- Repair damaged section of pavement on Sandisfield Rd. and repave.
- Radio upgrades and reprogramming: garage, loader, and grader.
- Met with Allstates Asphalt regarding reclamation of Rt. 23.
- Checking for stickers and compliance at transfer station.
- Insurance review for Pat Mielke, send to MIIA.
- Repair damaged section of pavement on Sandisfield Rd; repave.
- Retrieve lost keys in basin in front of church.
- Clean off basin tops.
- Install new basin on Main Rd. near Jenssen residence.
- Patch pot hole on Main Rd.
- Chapter 90 project request delivered to Lenox MASSDOT.
- Met with Allstates Asphalt, Maxymillion and Lane Construction re: reclamation & paving projects.
- Review cell-tower applications and comment to the ZBA.
- Inspect driveway on Beartown Mtn Rd.; redo.

## Select Board Meeting Time

Beginning with the meeting of Monday, September 12, Select Board meetings will start at 6 pm.

## This and That

On July 25 the Select Board approved two special event/one-day alcohol permits, for the Fire Company Steak Roast and the Bidwell House gala fundraiser.

A request from the Bidwell House for a mailing list from the town prompted the interdepartmental secretary to ask if the town has a policy about giving out mailing lists. A list was provided to the Bidwell House at no charge, and the Select Board used the opportunity to review the situation and create a policy. Jon Sylbert noted that some lists such as the Assessors' and the Tax Collector's are public records, but the list of dump stickers is private. The Board decided that the public lists may be provided to nonprofit or charitable organizations at no charge, but use of those list by any other organizations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. ॐ

*Aftermath of Hurricane Irene: (l) New Marlborough Road below Barbara Swann's (this section was under about 3 feet of rushing water during the storm); (r) Cronk Road. Many other town roads were washed out or undercut. On Royal Hemlock at a spot where there had been two 24-inch by by 30-foot culverts there is now only one and a big gap; the other culvert wound up about 400 feet downstream. (Photos Maynard Forbes)*

## Monterey Library Notes

A huge thank you to Franny Huberman, who spearheaded the Monterey Reads . . . *Weeping Under This Same Moon* by Jana Laiz. She brought Jana to the Monterey Library three times and had Jana discuss her writing with both writing and reading groups. Franny put a lot of effort into arranging all this—if you didn't get a chance yet, stop by the library to borrow a copy of the book.

Thank you to both Stacy Wallach and Cynthia Wallach for helping us to commemorate the150th anniversary of the Civil War. Both discussions gave unique perspectives to one of the most written-about and discussed events in U.S. history.

Our Monterey neighbor Gerry Curtis, a professor at Columbia University and specialist on Japanese affairs, was asked by TV Asahi, one of Japan's television networks to do a special feature story on the earthquake and tsunami disaster that hit Japan on March 11 of this year. He visited the region in early May to prepare the documentary and over the following two months made four more visits to different towns in the region, including those that had to be abandoned because of the nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. He will show a fifteen-minute video with subtitles in English from the documentary he prepared for the television program and will discuss his experiences talking with people in the evacuation centers and others who are trying to bring back some normalcy to their lives in the aftermath of Japan's worst-ever natural and humanmade disaster.

The adult book group is going to discuss *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson on Monday, September 26, at 7:30 pm. The members of this group enjoy their discussions so much they often stay late enough to close the library. Now that summer activities are winding down, isn't it time to pick up a book and join in on the fun? October's read will be *The Lobster Chronicles* by Linda Greenlaw.

CWMARS has set Columbus Day weekend for the switch from one software application to another. Some of you may already have noticed that the process has started and certain features have changed. We will have more information available as the date approaches, but in the meantime thank you for your patience.

— Mark Makuc, Library Director

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## Bidwell House September Events

**Tour of Redware Pottery Exhibit with Colta Ives**
Saturday, September 3, 10 am

Learn about this beautiful historic craft and see the museum's extensive collection with the curator of the exhibit. $15 suggested donation ($10 for members), which includes a tour of the museum.

**Flora And Fauna of the Bidwell Forest: A Walking Seminar**
Saturday, September 17, 10 am

Tim Flanagan, a professor of environmental and life sciences at Berkshire Community College, will lead a walk and explore the natural environment of the forest around the Bidwell House Museum. Please dress for the weather and bring something to drink. The $15 suggested donation includes a tour of the museum.

Walk is 1.5 miles, 2 hours. Meet at the museum. Sponsored by Housatonic Heritage and the Bidwell House Museum.

**Historical Walk along Forgotten Colonial Road in Beartown State Forest**
Sunday, September 18, 1 pm

Local historian Bernard Drew will lead participants on a hike along an old woods road that soon reaches a forgotten colonial road (circa 1770) in Beartown State Forest, which was trod by British prisoners following the battle of Bennington, Vermont, in 1777. The road was abandoned as a county road in 1793. The group will visit a trio of cellar holes from homes of later small farmsteads.

Walk is 1+ miles, 2+ hours. Enter Beartown State Forest from Blue Hill Road, Monterey. About 0.5 mile from the entrance, you will pass Benedict Pond on your right. Continue driving on the State Forest road, where you will pass a CCC campsite. The trail begins off an old woods road, where you will see other vehicles parked. This is a woods hike on moderate terrain with some climbing. There may be some bushwhacking, and it is tick country. Wear sturdy shoes or boots and bring something to drink. Sponsored by Housatonic Heritage and the Bidwell House.

**Scarecrow Workshop with Maureen and Michael Banner**
Saturday, September 24, 10 am

$15 suggested donation ($10 for members), which includes a tour of the museum. Supported by a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council.

**Archaeology on Bidwell Grounds: Native Americans, the First Meeting House, and the Knox Trail**
Saturday, October 1, 10 am

A guided walk exploring the traces of inhabitants and travelers of the area from earlier centuries. Local historian George Emmons will tell the story of the native people, the early settlement of the area by the British, and the trip through the Berkshires by General Knox. Please dress for the weather and bring water.

Walk is 1 mile, 1.5 hours. A $15 donation suggested ($10 members), which includes a tour of museum. Sponsored by Housatonic Heritage and Bidwell House.

Except as noted, all events are at (or start at, for walks) the Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road, Monterey. For more information call 413-528-6888.

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## Works of Maureen Banner at Knox Gallery

The Knox Gallery at the Monterey Library will open the fall season with a solo exhibition of work by Maureen Banner, highlighting her painting and sculpture and revealing her diversity as an artist. This work, made over many years, shows the range of her interests and skills. Maureen has been pursuing these mediums alongside the jewelry and silverwork with which many Montereyans are familiar. She has studied at Berkshire Community College with Mark Milloff and at the Evanston Art Center. We are excited to be the first gallery to exhibit this work.

Maureen Banner

*Figure (l) and Pumpkin (above).*

Maureen Banner and her husband, Michael Banner, have been making and selling their nationally renowned jewelry and silverwork, which have been exhibited throughout the country, for more than forty years. They have won numerous awards and received many commissions, and their work is in many private and public collections, including the Currier Museum, New Hampshire; the Kamm Collection, Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, Massachusetts; Museum of Fine Art, Boston; Art Institute of Chicago; Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts; Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso Indiana; and the Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina.

A reception for the artist will be held in the Knox Gallery on Saturday, September 10, from 7–9 pm. The exhibition will be open from September 2 thru September 28, 2011, during library hours.

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## Sept 11 Remembrance: The Final Say

Ten years ago, after terrorists intent on mass murder cut through the clear, blue skies of September 11, like most Americans my wife and I spent evenings hunkered down at home, two silhouettes in the blue glow of the television seeking clues of what this all meant for our nation and ourselves.

Probably it goes without saying that one thing can lead to another when a husband and wife hunker down together during the cold months. In what would seem mutually exclusive activities, we shuddered at a frightening future *and* conceived a child. Go figure. One moment we're discussing how we wouldn't want to raise a child in a world like this. The next—a ticker-tape parade in a fallopian tube.

The conclusion at the time: Passion always wins. The species is tone-deaf.

As winter turned to spring, we directed soft, singsong toward my wife's expanding belly. We worried how a child would fare in a world gone so wrong. We couldn't wait to meet him.

At that time I hadn't yet equated procreation as a rejoinder to the attacks of 9/11. To that end, I had something else in mind—engaging in something potentially

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dangerous that didn't require going to Iraq. I joined the fire department.

In all, 343 firefighters and other emergency responders were killed in the attack on the World Trade Center. They attempted to save lives even if it meant losing their own. In a nation that had hitherto made careless use of the word "hero"—tossing it around like an unwieldy red, white, and blue medicine ball—here were *real* heroes, ordinary people who displayed courage and the will for self-sacrifice. For me, their actions defined what it means to be decent.

As kids, many of us wanted to be firefighters because of the shiny red fire engines. Here, I wanted to be a firefighter because of the shiny example. I wanted to be like them. And I wanted my child to be raised in a world filled with people like them. So I joined the brotherhood—the men and women who rush into burning buildings, who have countless nights, mornings, and afternoons (meals, parties, and deep sleep) interrupted by the piercing sound of the pager, who work together to help neighbors and strangers who've been shoved into the claustrophobic confines of living nightmares.

Despite the fact we Americans, we townspeople, all sometimes drive each other nuts, what would we be without each other? What would we be without those who tend to the needs of the everyday while also building from the blueprints that make a community a *community*? I'm not referring only to firefighters. What would we be without the men and women willing to go to war while we stayed put; and neighbors who help each other with crappy home repair projects; and the mentors of troubled children; and the tutors at prisons; and parents who adopt; and doctors and nurses and teachers; and religious leaders who have a sense of humor; and all devotees of the disenfranchised?

I doubt the men who flew planes into buildings ten years ago ever met people like these.

So ten years later, we have a 9/11 child—a boy with red hair like his mother. He plays with his pack of classmates, other 9/11 children born of love in a complicated age. No doubt, they'll mature with irreducible edges honed by the blunt instrument of anxious times. No doubt, they'll be a discerning brood who won't be denied a full accounting of such words as terror and suicide.

But for now, they anoint our lives. They remind us of our better selves. Their lives honor the memory of the men and women who never returned home that September day. They are the rejoinder to madness, the embodiment of their parents' singular act of defiance—under the sheets and out in the streets.

And when it comes time to, say, flip steaks at a summertime fundraiser, I wish above all else those terrorists could get a load of us—we, the ones who stayed behind. I'd like to think even just the simple act of flipping steaks for a good cause would tick them off the most.

Because look at us now, look at us still.

Mercy wins.

The terrorists lose.

— Felix Carroll

*Felix Carroll is a member of the Monterey Fire Department.*

## 9/11 10th Anniversary Observance

An observance of the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks will be held at 1 pm on Sunday, September 11, at the Monterey Firehouse.


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## An Anniversary at the Meetinghouse . . .

Of course the congregation of the Monterey United Church of Christ will always remember September 11, 2001. But we have good reason to remember the day before, too. Liz Goodman delivered her first sermon to us—the first sermon of her post-seminary career—on September 10, 2011, so this month marks the tenth anniversary of her "Yes!" to our call to be our pastor. Factoring in absences for vacations, childbirth, and her sabbatical, she's gifted us with more than 400 sermons since then.

Rev. Adonijah Bidwell responded to the pastoral call to Township #1 in 1750. By now, there have been well more than 13,000 sermons preached from the pulpit he served first: a great number more, since "Township #1" is now served by churches in both Monterey and Tyringham. Though not always delivered in this building, each one is a part of the flow of grace that connects our roots, our present, and our future. You can access some of Liz's sermons online at our website, monterey-church.org, You can also either listen to or download them from iTunes, at Monterey United Church of Christ: Rev. Elizabeth Goodman.

— Mary Kate Jordan

## Flu Shot Clinic

Flu shots will be given in the Monterey Town Hall meeting room from 1:30–2:30 pm on Thursday, September 29. The shots are available to those 19 years of age and older; no appointment necessary. Wear short sleeves. Shots are free for Medicare subscribers (bring card).

## Otis Harvest Festival Sept. 24

The second annual Potluck Harvest Festival sponsored by the Otis Cultural Council and Otis Community Garden will be held on Saturday, September 24, from 6:30 until 8:30 pm at the Otis Town Hall. In addition to good will and good eating, this event will feature the second edition of Otis Oral Histories written and presented by Anastasia Stanmeyer. The evening will conclude with a community sing-a-long.

The event is free, but all who are able are requested to bring either a main dish or dessert offering. Please bring your children and your neighbors from surrounding communities for a great family evening. For more information contact Susan at 413-441-9579 or Eve at 413- 269-7652.

Hy Rosen

## Alixandra Green Wins LakeFest Fishing Derby

At 9:00 am on August 8, thirty-one smiling kids lined up at the Fish Hatchery pool. The biggest smile of all belonged to Alixandra Green, age 10, of Pittsfield, who landed a 50 cm brown trout. (A little research on Google revealed 50 centimeters equal 19.7 inches.)

Way to go Alixandra!

Thomas Cook snagged second prize with a 38 cm brook trout, and sister Ellen's 36.5 cm brook trout won third prize.


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# Goodbye Lakefest 2011; Welcome Lakefest 2012

*David Grover & the Band at LakeFest playing for a group of hearty fans under the tent away from the rain. (Photo: Hy Rosen)*

Thank you, Monterey, for the incredible success you've made our LakeFest celebrations over the years. Pat Edelstein, Julio Rodriguez, Pat Salomon Rodriguez, and Hy Rosen have served as unofficial hosts of our lake gatherings for the past five summers. But all of you, our friends and neighbors, are what LakeFest is about.

You've joined us to celebrate the lake, the beach, and our community. You've been there and stayed through downpours and fireworks and no fireworks; through the long lines for potluck suppers and the disappearance of potluck, and the beginning of a new tradition of family picnics. You've taken boat rides to the far corners of the lake, seen a rainbow across it, decorated faces with incredible art and flare, taken photos of those faces, and everything else. You've built wondrous sandcastles and moonscape sculptures. You've paddled safely around the small bowl, exploring our precious lake, in canoes on loan from friends and neighbors. You've kept our lifeguards happy by swimming safely in spite of the large numbers LakeFest brings to our beach. You've watched our youngsters entranced by Roger the Jester and swayed to the inimitable David Grover and his band.

You've visited our ecology table, and read with us about phosphorus in detergent and nitrogen in fertilizer and all the weeds they produce. You've learned about weevils and "draw down" methods to counter weeds, and all that science can tell us about how to keep our lake from turning into a meadow. You've bought glo sticks and posters, water bottles and T-shirts, so you've helped subsidize the scientists who help inform our town's approach to the care of the lake. You've agreed to carry out the mounds of garbage we created at LakeFest, and even to make steps to reduce the garbage and lighten our footprint on our beach and park, and on the earth itself. You've gobbled down hotdogs as if it were the very last LakeFest.

But that's not what's happening. It is in no way the last LakeFest. Instead, the four of us will end our stint as hosts and make way for the creation of Monterey LakeFest 2012. And two of you have already stepped up: new leaders, new hosts for next year—drum roll please . . . LakeFest 2012 will fall to the capable hands of Mayra Rodriguez, and Dorene Beller. Join with them to make our next LakeFest the very best one ever.

— Pat Salomon

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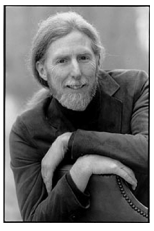

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## August Wildlife Report

In the past month Monterey folks have been seeing bears, birds, butterflies, and more. Colta Ives on New Marlborough Road has heard a red-eyed vireo nearly every day for a month, and she's also seen a flock of tufted titmice and two scarlet tanagers up high in the trees. Over on Stevens Lake, Carl and Elise Hartman have seen a pair of swans and sent a good photo. These were mute swans, with orange and black bills.

On Lake Garfield, Delight and Paul Dodyk report a double-crested cormorant on the lake and then perching in a big dead tree. They have also seen a bald eagle, which was being bothered by crows. They have been hearing loons and saw one at last in late July. Across the lake from the Dodyks, Bob and Laura Cutick have also seen the loon and a couple of immature bald eagles. (I went out in the canoe looking for a loon myself, and I got to see the Cuticks instead. B. McA.)

This month's bear reports come from Don and El Coburn, who saw one walking down the middle of Beartown Mountain Road, and from Colta Ives, who had her entire pear crop stripped unripe from two trees by a tall bear standing up. The bear the Coburns saw was unafraid of their dog—which had the sense not to bark, though it got to within 20 feet of the bear. The bear walked slowly on.

Colta Ives also reports a grey squirrel hanging upside-down to gobble ripe dogwood berries, which have been enjoyed by cedar waxwings and pileated woodpeckers as well.

Carl & Elise Hartman

*Swan on Stevens Lake.*

From Colta we have a report of a pair of red-spotted purple butterflies, and Emma Micklewright has seen these at her place, as well as black swallowtails, monarchs, and harvesters. At Emma's house there is a fox den in the garden, and an almost daily fox presence, including the sight of foxes eating squirrels sometimes.

Will Marsh reports that on a Sunday walk (August 14) he saw two fawns browsing, intermingled with a group of browsing adolescent turkeys, in the recently cut Gould Farm field on Curtis Road next to the Stuckers' house. He watched for a while and a third fawn came out of woods and joined them; all three were small and still had spotted coats. Will continued on his walk, and when he came by again about twenty minutes later they were still in the field, now separated from the turkeys. They interrupted their browsing from time to time for a gambol. No sign of mother.

From New Marlborough Road, Susan Sellew writes of seeing a fisher. This rare dark animal, about four feet long if you include the tail, crossed the road and headed up behind Susan's brother John's place. Susan notes that although often referred to as fisher cat, there was "nothing fluid and feline about the way it moved, and the tail was too bushy and too straight out behind." (Note: The name Fisher is also misleading since this large member of the weasel family does not fish nor eat fish. Others of the family do—otters and mink. B. McA.)

Thanks for sending me your wildlife news. Please call or write with more animal tales (528-9385 bmca@berkshire.net, or PO Box 332).

— Bonner McAllester

## Growing Vegetables for Four Seasons Workshop at Gould Farm

Enjoy your own garden greens throughout the late fall and early spring months after participating in "Extending the Season's Harvest: Growing Vegetables for Four Seasons," a workshop sponsored by Berkshire Botanical Garden at Gould Farm in Monterey on Saturday, September 10, from 1–4 pm. Stephen Enoch, Gould Farm's Garden Team Manager, will present options for types of structures to contain plants, crop selection, and soil preparation. The cost for Botanical Garden Members is $22, nonmembers $27.

To register for classes, or for more information on Berkshire Botanical Garden programs, events, and courses, visit the Garden website, www.berkshirebotanical.org, or call 413-298-3926.


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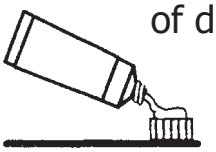

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Route 23 Monterey

## Peace Conference, Festival, & Concert Sept. 17

One of the premises of The Center for Peace through Culture (CPC), headquartered in Monterey, is that bringing artists, scientists, and philosophers together to tackle an issue can lead to unexpected, creative solutions. As a result, CPC created a Toolbox of specialists to serve the community. Among the many proposals was a peace conference.

I became the Executive Director two years ago. Four days into my duties I went to a seminar for non-profits and met the director of Hancock Shaker Village. She told me that the Shakers' name for what we now call the Shaker Village was the City of Peace. Instant Connection! After sharing many ideas, we enthusiastically decided to co-present a Peace Conference and Festival.

"Pathways to Peaceful Living: Tools and Explorations," a one-day peace conference and concurrent festival will take place Saturday, September 17, from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at Hancock Shaker Village. The conference will conclude with a concert by Grammy-winning composer Paul Winter that evening at 7:30 pm.

Congressman Dennis Kucinich of Ohio will be our Keynote Speaker. He is a strong advocate for peace in the individual and in national and foreign policy. He has proposed a cabinet-level Department of Peace and Nonviolence. Nationally known presenters include:

–Donald W. Goodrich, whose son was killed in the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center. Instead of harboring revenge and hate, he and his wife Sally went to Afghanistan to look for the root cause of this attack and realized that education was desperately needed. They started a school for girls in Afghanistan.

–Colin Goddard is a Virginia Tech survivor who was shot four times. Colin uses his experience as motivation to tirelessly pursue improvements to gun laws in the United States.

–Nancy Roof, PhD, is the founder and editor of *Kosmos* magazine. She is a pioneer in the field of spiritual psychology, co-founded the Values and the Spiritual Caucuses at the United Nations, and was invited by Mikhail Gorbachev to speak to world leaders on the power of global civil society.

There will also be many local presenters, including Monterey's Nanette Hucknall and Will Conklin, Director of CPC's Greenagers.

The Conference will include a festival of activities, exhibits, and entertainment throughout the Village. They will include Native American ceremonies, dances of universal peace, face painting, New Games, storytelling, Tai Chi, and many Berkshire musicians. Festival activities are free with general admission to the Village.

A separate evening concert will feature Paul Winter. He is a six time Grammy award winner. His performance will feature his soprano sax, along with the voices of wolf, whale, bull elk, whooping crane, woodthrush, and other members of what he calls "the greater symphony of the Earth."

Registration for Pathways to Peaceful Living is $90 prior to July 31, $105 between August 1 and September 16, and $120 on the day of the conference. Registration fees include Workshops and Congressman Kucinich's keynote address, as well as festival activities and general admission to the Village. Concert tickets will be sold separately. For information, registration and concert tickets, visit www.hancockshakervillage.org.

The Center for Peace through Culture is dedicated to creating peace from the individual to the community to the world. Programs include "Pathways to Peaceful Living; Tools and Explorations," Greenagers, Monterey Meets Ngalla, and educational workshops. For more information, visit www.centerforpeacethroughculture.org

Hancock Shaker Village is an outdoor living-history museum in Pittsfield. The Village includes 18 historic buildings, heirloom gardens, and examples of Shaker furniture, crafts, and artifacts. For more information, call 800-817-1137 or see www.hancockshakervillage.org.

— Barbara Boughton

*Barbara Boughton is Executive Director of the Center for Peace through Culture.*

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## A Decade Ago

It's been ten years since September 11, or 9/11 as it is also commonly known, and a majority of Americans have trouble remembering the year. I started high school just four days before the towers fell; it was the JFK or Pearl Harbor of my generation. We all remember where we were when we heard the news and our world changed forever. I remember the rumors in the hallway after first period; something had happened in New York City, something at the World Trade Center. It was 9:00 in the morning.

9:05: I had world history for my second class-block; looking back, it seemed oddly fitting. We all opened our laptops and started trying to access cnn.com. Mass traffic at the time caused the site to crash, and eventually I was the only one who successfully loaded the homepage; everyone crowded around to read the headlines. I still remember watching the picture come up on the screen: an orange fireball exploding out of the building. It was after 9:02 when the second plane crashed into the South Tower. My history teacher still remembers this series of events vividly: the tense moments, the silence, the murmurs, the fear and uncertainty, and all the questions—some that we still ask today.

Forty-five minutes later, we gathered as an entire school in our common area, and that's when the vice-principal found me. I'd gotten a call from my mom because she wanted to let me know that my best friend's mother was safe. I hadn't realized she worked just steps from the Trade Center buildings. The administrators announced that counselors were available and that we were all allowed to make phone calls if we needed to contact anyone. They did not set up a TV, so throughout the day we all checked the news between classes. I remember wondering what it meant and how someone could intentionally do that. It was the first time Al-Qaeda, Taliban, and suicide bombers really registered for me. Watching the footage at home that night seared images into my mind that will last for the rest of my life. The next evening the sky at the farm burned a brilliant shade of orange and red; smoke rising from downtown Manhattan created a breathtaking sunset for those living three hundred miles north.

In the years that followed, we've all seen the same events unfold: a rally-round-the-flag effect, the start of two wars, the toppling of a regime, the hunt for (and recent death of) Osama Bin Laden, the formation of the 9/11 Commission and its subsequent report, films released, songs written, and a heightened awareness of Middle Eastern politics, cultural differences, Islam, and religious fanaticism. There are still questions, so many questions. It started with, who did this and why? How could this happen to us? The most recent period of American isolationism ended that September day. Now, we wonder how best to engage in a changed world as we realize we are no longer beyond reach. Some wanted revenge, while others worried about the consequences of retaliation. Today, the cycle goes on.

In the spring of 2006, as a second-semester freshman at Middlebury, I took a class on American foreign policy. For our discussion session on September 11, one of the big questions was, "What really changed that day?" We all wrote response papers prior to the class and I'd attempted to write a few thoughts on that one in particular. I was still finding my voice in college and nervous about speaking up, but the professor was relentless: "Tarsi, I think you wrote about this in your paper; what do you think?" Well, so much for pretending to be invisible.

I started to talk, and while I don't remember my exact words, I remember making distinctions between different groups of actors. Perhaps our national psyche changed even more than our foreign policy, which maybe shifted more in


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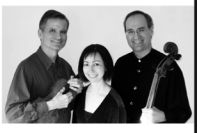

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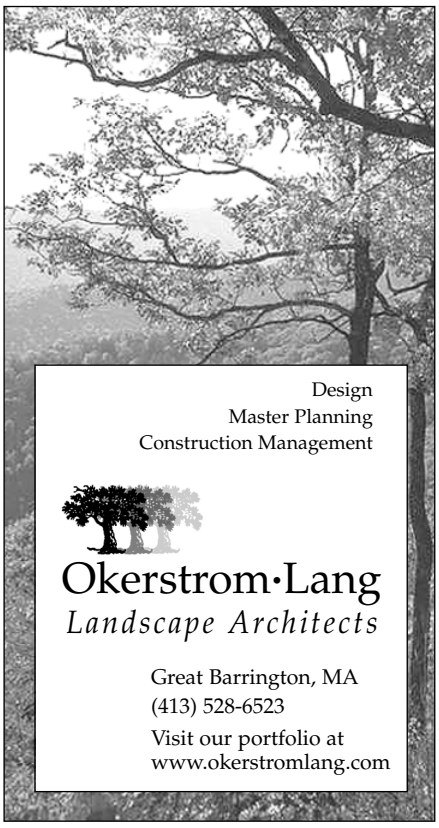


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focus and intent than in tactics and beliefs. I remember making a reference to the fact I was a freshman in high school and that it altered my perspective and awareness without question. One of the seniors in the class said, "Wow, I feel old," smiling at me: "I was a freshmen in college." It changed his perspective too; we are part of the same generation after all.

My professor acknowledged my point with a supportive nod and a smile, and just a month after, I asked her to be my academic advisor. Even today, we stay in touch.

Articulating what changed for us as a nation, from an academic perspective, will take years, and many professors and researchers are already hard at work on the narrative. The question posed wasn't just about changes in a national policy perspective; it was also about Americans as people of a nation, and that is what our class felt most keenly during our discussion.

Events like 9/11 change everyone, but in different ways. Maybe you lived in New York or DC and watched it happen in real time or lost a relative or friend in the tragedy. Perhaps you're like me and it pushed you to question the world around you and heightened your awareness of the complexities in it. Ten years later, I hope we've started to heal as a country, even if one can argue we made many mistakes along the way. We've been at odds recently, at least politically, but in just over a week we will come together to remember and honor the fallen. As one nation unified by memories, we'll bow our heads and reflect on that fateful morning a decade ago.

— Tarsi Dunlop

## Downing Accepting Applications for Citizens' Legislative Seminar

State Senator Benjamin B. Downing (D- Pittsfield) has announced that the 67th Citizens' Legislative Seminar (CLS) will be held on Tuesday, October 18, and Wednesday, October 19, from 9:30 am to 4 pm at the Massachusetts State House.

"The Citizens' Legislative Seminar allows participants to hear legislators explain their role in state government and ask questions about the legislative process," said Downing. "It is a valuable learning tool for our citizens and constituents and a great opportunity for residents to get an in-depth perspective of state government."

CLS is a citizen workshop that aims to better educate the public on the Commonwealth's legislative process. Established in 1976 through a collaborative effort of the Massachusetts Senate and the University of Massachusetts, this two-day workshop features presentations by senators and staff on aspects of the day-to-day experience of legislators in the Commonwealth. Topics will include the history and process of the legislature, the parliamentary role of the Clerk of the Senate, and the future of the legislature.

The CLS culminates with a simulated legislative hearing and senate session where participants are invited to use what they have learned and participate as "senators" in the senate chamber in order to have a first-hand experience of the legislative process.

CLS attendees must be nominated by their state Senator. All residents of the Berkshire, Hampshire, and Franklin District interested in attending this year's event are invited to contact Senator Downing's Chief of Staff, Bethann Steiner, at (617) 722-1625 by Friday, September 9. A resume will be requested from each applicant. Participation is on a first come, first serve basis; candidates must be able to attend both days of the program.

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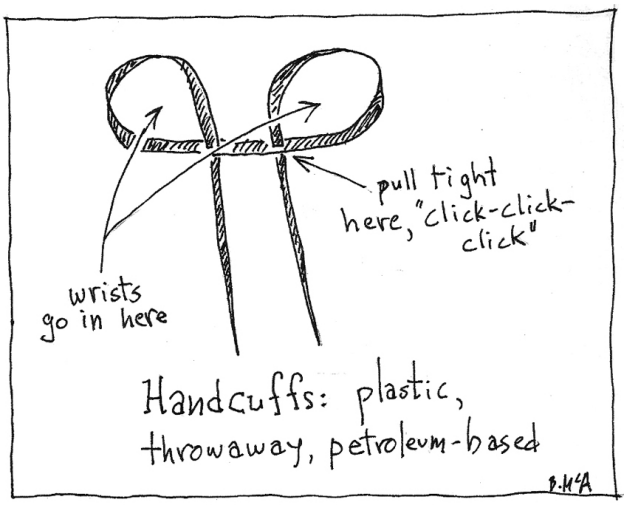
## Travel by Daylight

Humans are diurnal animals, which means we typically shut our eyes and sleep at night. If we are lucky we crawl into some safe place, in a cave, under a rock, or at least under the covers. Our eyes, so far, are not designed to see much at night, so there's no point being up and about foraging for meals, plus it's dangerous because we could be the meal for some animal with the other kind of eyes. Nocturnal animals don't travel by daylight because their eyes don't work right when the sun is up and *we* might get *them*.

Of course we are pushing the evolutionary envelope with our various inventions. We rub two sticks together, light a pitchy torch or a little fire, and then party into the night. The nocturnals cover their sensitive eyes and hold their ears waiting for us to run out of steam and crawl under our rock so the night-time neighborhood can get back to normal.

One thing we do by flashlight these days is travel after dark, and fast. Mostly the nocturnals stay away from our weird and noisy pathways as we hurtle by. These pathways are not just bright and noisy, they also stink. Our little noses, already so challenged and overloaded beyond their design, let us forget about the stink. Our brains help us with this forgetfulness, too.

Last week I went by daylight along a path I'd only taken by night in the past. I had my eyes wide open and my brain tuned up to the glorious swampy places along the Metro North train line, the mighty rivers out the window of the Peter Pan. In the cities there were people everywhere, all shapes, colors, and sizes. I walked by daylight through mobs of them, having their lunch in a city park, smiling and socializing outdoors under the sky and the big shady trees.




By dark I'd reached Washington, gaga with all that I'd seen. My many previous trips there had been by chartered bus, full of peaceniks, loaded up late at night and dropped off in the capital about dawn. What a world I missed, all those trips. Coming back home was the same: load up after a long full day with the mob, get north in the wee dark hours, stumbling through the night world by flashlight.

Last week in DC after dark we switched on the lights and had our nonviolence training session. The trainers were young folks from the Ruckus Society. Who knew I would be listening to this sprightly young man in a big wool hat telling me how "empowered" he'd been, times he'd gotten arrested for civil disobedience, by the "adult diaper" strategy. He was serious.

"You don't know how long they'll hold you. It's hot out there on the sit-in and it's hot in jail, so you need to hydrate, hydrate. But you have no idea when you can get to a bathroom, so put that diaper on and don't worry. One time I had to wait so long in the cell I just peed my pants. Now let me tell you since then I always wear my best friend, the diaper."

Why were we listening to this fellow? Why had we traveled from Alaska, Canada, Nebraska, Montana, Iowa, and Monterey, Mass.? Surely not to attend a diaper empowerment workshop and sleep on the hard floor in a church in Washington, DC.

Hearing the questions and concerns that night you might have thought this really was what it was all about. Will I have a criminal record, now? Can I take my meds to jail with me? Can I use a phone, or will someone call my mom for me?

Anyone can travel to DC and get a ticket like I did, any time. You just sit or stand too long in front of the White House, and when the Park Police have given you three warnings to leave and you are still

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there, they cuff you and load you into the paddy wagon. You sit in there, cushioned by your adult diaper, wondering if you really *could* let go before your bladder burst. You'll go home with a record because you "Failed to Obey a Lawful Order." The arresting officers don't note anywhere why you did this. They have enough paperwork without your life story and how you feel as a diurnal animal who has stretched the life-giving envelope in stinking ways.

You hope someone notes this down, though. For two weeks folks have been sleeping on the church floor, getting down to the White House the next day with or without diaper empowerment. We are protesting the construction of the 1,700-mile Tar Sands Pipeline from Alberta to Texas. Our president, who promised so much, could stop this all by himself.

Through the earthquake and the floods, every day another big group gets cuffed and hauled away. We look like someone's grandmother, someone's kid. We are traveling now by daylight with our eyes wide open, and it feels right. We know there's a place for us on this perfect planet, and right now for some of us it's in jail wearing a diaper. When we get out, our place is back home talking about it, noticing the noise and the stink, knowing we have sweeter options. That brain is good for something, but only when it's fully connected to the eyes, the nose, the ears, and especially the heart. It is the heart that will stop the stink, stop the pipeline. It will leave the oil in the ground and it will turn us around. Maybe I hate the pipeline, but my hate won't stop it. It will have to be my heart for my kind, for all kinds.

"Only love can do that" (Martin Luther King, Jr.).

— Bonner J. McAllester

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## A Late Afternoon of Jazz, Wine, and Food Sept. 10

Music and More series will present an afternoon jazz concert by Hilary Gardner and the West 73rd Quartet on Saturday, September 10, at 4:30 pm. The concert will take place at the historic Meeting House on the Village Green in New Marlborough, and will be followed by a wine tasting gala, hosted by Domaney's in Great Barrington.

Praised as adventurous interpreters, West 73rd will mostly perform arrangements from its recording, "A Song About Forever: The Kurt Weill Project," which was nominated for a MAC Award for Best Jazz Recording. The performance will explore the music of legendary composer Kurt Weill from a jazz perspective, incorporating those musical and theatrical influences that have made his music compelling to listeners from all walks of life.

United by a musical curiosity and a shared love of jazz, West 73rd is comprised of pianist Frank Ponzio, bassist Peter Donovan, drummer Vito Lesczak, and vocalist Hilary Gardner. Its music is sophisticated and dynamic and pulses with rhythmic energy. The name "West 73rd" is a nod to where the quartet's musical collaboration began: at Ponzio's studio on West 73rd St. in Manhattan.

Hilary Gardner, the voice of West 73rd, made her Broadway debut in Twyla Tharp's 2010 musical, *Come Fly Away*, a show *The New York Times* praised as "spectacular and dazzling." Backed by a 19-piece big band, she also sang solos and duets with the recorded Frank Sinatra in a performance hailed as "wonderful" (*Huffington Post*), "elegant" (*USA Today*), and "terrific" (*New York Observer*). Gardner has worked extensively as a guest vocalist, including on the New York State of the Art Jazz Ensemble's *Oasis* and on multi-platinum recording artist Moby's acclaimed 2008 release *Wait For Me*, on which she appeared prominently.

Frank Ponzio, an accomplished pianist and composer, has performed at venues like Birdland, Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall and the Museum of Modern Art. He has written music for TV commercials, plays, radio and film.

Peter Donovan has played alongside a diverse array of artists, including Bono, Quincy Jones, The New York Film Harmonic, and Liza Minelli, and has toured and recorded with the legendary Barbara Cook.

Drummer Vito Lesczak has performed in many of the major jazz rooms and concert halls all over the world, and toured throughout North America and Europe with the likes of Art Farmer, Clark Terry, and John Hendricks.

Tickets to the concert cost $25/$20. Students with ID and children with parents are admitted for free. Please visit www.newmarlborough.org or call 413-229-2785 for information and reservations, which are required.

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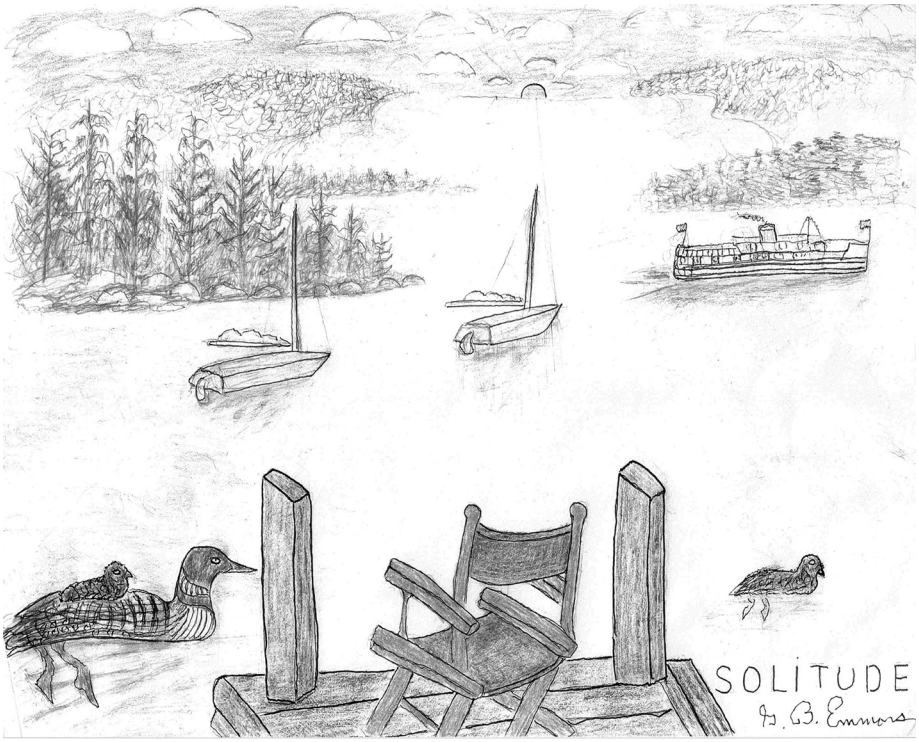
# The Tremor of Walden Pond Solitude




Henry David Thoreau's *Walden* was first published in the year 1854. It was destined to become a literary monument as well as an environmental milestone for future generations. Many people were to follow in his footsteps seeking the solitude of soul-searching seclusion. Thoreau's own adventure into seclusion had moved him out of Concord center into a small rustic cabin by the edge of the pond. His motivation may have been born in the intellectual watershed of the transcendentalist movement of his literary friends and neighbors. Concord had produced the likes of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Bronson Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and others. They were responsible for creating a wave of theological thinking placing spiritual values over material possessions, which swept across New England.

His book called Walden a pond, and it is still called a pond today even though similar-sized bodies of water such as our own Garfield were upgraded in classification to lakes fifty years ago. Before that time, Walden and Lake Garfield had begun attracting more visitors and campers seeking, like Thoreau, refuge in retreat. Early maps of Monterey are dotted with the sites of both bible camps and summer camps. Also shown are names of original cottage owners from the Battery, Bronx, and Brooklyn, many of whom were we able to build trophy cottages with prominent views.

Summer has always been a traditional season of lakeside family reunions, as portrayed in the 1981 film *On Golden Pond*. Katherine Hepburn and Henry Fonda play aging parents of a rebellious daughter, played by Jane Fonda. As they gathered to heal their differences on Golden Pond in New Hampshire, they interpreted the calls of the loons as a welcome back. The film was actually shot on Squam Lake, and the Emmons family annually has its family reunion at the Appalachian Mountain Club summer camp on one of the many small islands in nearby Lake Winnipesaukee. This camp is called Three Mile because it is located exactly three miles south of the northernmost point of the lake.

Each pair of campers stays in a one-room rustic cabin about the size of Thoreau's with a small dock at the water's edge. Three generations of one family like ours can be situated close to each other and take their meals at a main house together every evening. Just before dusk the cruise liner *M. S. Mount Washington* circles the island, and the sound of music drifting across the water adds nostalgia to the gathering. After dark, while reading a good book by the light of a kerosene lamp, one hears the haunting call of loons, which Thoreau described as the most unearthly he had ever heard. To us, after fifty years of going there, their moaning wail seems to mourn the passage of time, but the tremor, as in *On Golden Pond*, greets us as a welcome back!

— George B. Emmons.

ॐ

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## Notes from the Community Garden

As I drive up to our community garden, I can't help being amazed at how it has grown. It has a presence, a structure, and now a good road leading to it.

This is my first year with the garden. In the early spring I met the other gardeners at a planning meeting at the then-still-open general store. We worked on planning the layout, counting those who would come back, and counting how many people signed up for the first time. We looked at the need to create extra gardens plots. Our numbers matched with the gardens already there; there were just enough. We did not turn any interested party away.

I thought it would be fun to share a garden with a neighbor so we both work the same garden. If all the gardens were not taken we had other members wishing to maintain two of them. It is planned but still flexible.

The next meeting was also at the general store. It was a seed swap. Everyone who came brought seeds that we all shared. We also shared ideas and plans. We talked about gardening books, advice on planting, companion planting, harvesting, personal updates, and someone even brought jam made from food harvested from the garden.

We also discussed the need for funds to help with items that would help make it better and more productive. That led us to our second annual plant sale, which was held at the Community Garden. We found the community at large very willing to aid in the development of this project. Gould Farm helped plant and grow seedlings for our sale. There were many heirloom varieties of plants. The sale was a great success. In just one morning, most of our seedlings were sold.

It was heartwarming to see such community support and we were able to show off our garden to all who wandered in. We even had shoppers from other towns. With the proceeds from that sale we were able to purchase supplies such as compost, mulch, and a much-needed shade tent.

It is now late August, and the garden has grown, with plots displaying a variety of fruits and vegetables as well as herbs and flowers. This is probably the best time of year for any garden. The summer squash is producing. The second planting of lettuce has begun. There are wonderful tomatoes ripening all over. There is such abundance. I have been lucky to have quite a few returning cherry tomato plants that self-planted from last year.

We also have had our trials and tribulations with pests, open and broken latches, difficult cucumbers, mold, and the like. The response to these problems was emails with ideas and discussions about the possible reasons for the problems and also possible cures. I have learned quite a lot from other gardeners.

This brings us to the second and perhaps the most important crop we grow at the garden . . . community. I love going there and seeing other gardeners when they pop in. Sometimes there is no one, other times there are quite a few who wander in to work.

There have been many personal donations and efforts that have greatly aided in the garden's development. One gardener donated a lawnmower. Another brought water and compost. Still others cleared brush and removed debris. Someone fixed the latches. The town completed the driveway. The entrance is now off Route 23. I find it safe, convenient, and a real improvement.

I cannot believe how much this garden has changed in just this year. Reflecting on all the help, donations, and effort shown by so many, I think it reflects the community that helped it be what it is so far. I am sure there will be more improvements and growth in the future.

We welcome all to drop by and visit. Who knows, maybe next year you may wish to join us?

— Christine Goldfinger


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**From the Meetinghouse . . .**

# Japan, Part 4 of 4: Tsunami Devastation: Navigating The Impact Today and Tomorrow

By early August, Midori and Gerry Curtis were back in Monterey. When we shared a delightful summer afternoon in their home, much of our talk focused on the shattering events of March 11, and the people who survived them.

Japan's earthquake-preparedness is astounding, Gerry reports. If it hadn't been for the tsunami, news headlines on the day following the strongest quake in Japan's recorded history would have been about how well the earthquake-damage-prevention system worked. All the bullet trains stopped automatically, and no one was hurt. High-rise buildings in Tokyo rocked with enough violence to induce nausea, but none collapsed. It was the tsunami that really devastated the rural northeastern provinces, not the 9.0 quake. How does one conceive of, let alone prepare for, a wave that sometimes rose to 100 feet high?

Despite the death and destruction in the affected area, order and calm prevailed. (To get a sense of the scope of the tragedy, imagine that a tsunami wiped out the coastline villages, towns, and cities from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to Portland, Maine.) In the disaster's aftermath, what has surfaced is the ways that both social systems and individuals respond to power. Those relationships become most visible in their capacity to block, or facilitate, change.

*Mount Fuji, seen from behind a statue of Dr. Paul Rusch, on the grounds at KEEP. (Photo courtesy of KEEP's Shinya Goto)*

The problems in Japan show most keenly in the inability at the national level to think outside the box and respond flexibly to an unprecedented situation, Gerry says. It's those who wield authority at the local level who know best what needs to be done.

Furthermore, they've begun to do it. And it's those in the private sector who are providing the direct and timely assistance the local leaders need to move forward. Japanese for-profit corporations, not-for-profit organizations, and individuals are using their own resources to help. Some, like KEEP (Kiyosato Educational Exchange Program), are also focusing the flow of generosity from the global community.

These are corporations, organizations, and individuals humble enough to realize that their help is not about them, even though the givers feel good about giving. Rather, it's about the birth of hope that a gift of help can ignite.

It was in Mitsubishi's best interest, of course, to get the factories in the affected area up and running again. But the company also established, and maintains, an internal volunteer corps. Rotating groups of their employees go to the affected area for three to five days at a time. They shovel debris or assist in whatever other ways they can. And Mitsubishi pays each of them their full salary for their volunteer time. The policy is in place for at least a year, with the option of extending it as necessary. They didn't, the cliché reminds us, have to do that.

The U.S. military didn't have to launch Operation Friendship in response


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to the disaster, either, but it did. Our forces helped get the roads, rail system, and airport functioning again so that relief supplies could be brought into the remote area. The already-friendly ties between the two countries have grown warmer as a result. The Japanese people continue to express their deep gratitude for this and any other help they receive from the rest of the world.

Gratitude has been an important part of Midori's experience during the last six months, too. That's no surprise to anyone who knows this gracious woman. Not long before the tsunami struck, she had joined KEEP's board, and she's grateful to everyone involved with the organization, past, present, and future, but especially for the ways in which they continue to help with the needs of the tsunami survivors, and with plans for community rebuilding. She says that the way KEEP functions today is clearly an extension of the great integrity of Dr. Paul Rusch, KEEP's founder. Because Dr. Rusch was also Midori's godfather, finding that his memory continues to be honored in this way is especially important to her. "First, I thank him for giving us all so much," she said.

Midori is also grateful to those connected with Gallery Lime, as well as so many others, too many people to list here. So she asks the indulgence of those whose names aren't mentioned while she express specific thanks to:

–Hiromichi Hashizume at the Central Theological College, for taking her to the Lenox Chapel when they visited KEEP a couple of years ago. This was the visit that lay behind Midori asking the question last spring that unraveled KEEP's Lenox Chapel mystery (described in July and August).

–Her father, Takeo Fukai, who graduated from Rikkyo (St. Paul) University, joined the choir, met Paul Rusch, and influenced her life a great deal.

–Tadao Kaneko, a close friend of her father from Rikkyo University and the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew and who, with her father, was among the volunteers who built the very first Seisenryo (lodge) at KEEP in the 1930s. "Mr. Kaneko devoted his whole life to KEEP," Midori told me. "And I want to thank his daughter Mika. We met at KEEP when we were five or six years old, and have been very close friends since then. She lives in the States now, too."

–The men who had been boys at The Lenox School: Bob Sansone, Randy Harris, and Doug Hardy. "I have had so much fun finding out so many facts during the process, especially through their efforts," she said.

When Midori also thanked me for writing the story, all I could do was insist that the thanks belong to her and to Gerry, who took time to proofread and make suggestions in the midst of living the experience. But the greatest gratitude goes to the survivors, for showing the world that it's possible to navigate mind-numbing disaster with grace.

*Midori and Gerry Curtis at Gallery Lime for Midori's art show last May/June. (Photo courtesy Gallery Lime)*

They're not saintly stoics, these accidental role models. They're regular people doing their best to keep their humanity in the face of incomprehensible loss, and they're an inspiration to the Japanese people as a whole, as well as to those of us watching from elsewhere. I hope to learn more about them when Gerry shows the English-subtitled version of the documentary about Tohoku he made for one of the Japanese television networks. He'll be at the Monterey Library on Friday, September 23, at 7 pm.

Join the relief and reconstruction process going on in Japan. Contact Jennifer Corwin, Executive Director, American Committee for KEEP, Inc. Send your check to her at 825 Green Bay Road, Suite 122, Wilmette, IL. 60091; give your gift by phone, 847-853-2500, or just go to www.ackeep.org, then click on "Ashin."

— Mary Kate Jordan

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# "Garden Gustation"
## What's cooking from Monterey Gardens & Farms

### Garden Glut

The season we've all been long awaiting is now upon us . . . tomato season. Three years ago I began seriously growing my own tomato and pepper seedlings. The first year began with great hopes and excitement for our own young'uns growing up. The transplanted plants thrived beautifully until . . . the darkness overtook us. Due to uncontrollable wet conditions, the tomato blight descended, and we were forced to heartbreakingly rip up all of our plants, wrap them in a tarp and drag them deep into the woods to rot away far from the rest of the garden.

Enough sadness. The following January I sat with the Fedco seed catalog and rekindled hope for the next season. I like to plant several varieties of tomatoes. Sungold cherries for sweet pop-in-your-mouth pleasure, Amish paste for sauce, Brandywines for summer eating, Early Girls for an early start, Green Zebras for color, and, Stephen's favorite for his flavorful tomato sandwiches, Cherokee Purple. So I ordered a small packet of each variety. I have seed-starting trays with 72 cells. One never truly knows the germination rate of the tiny seeds, or the death rate between seedling and tomato harvest. So I filled the tray. Germination . . . 100 percent. Transplanting successful. I don't use lights for starting the seedlings; we simply give up our dining room table in the southwest corner of the house for the sake of the "babies." Turns out, duh, we now have 72 tomato plants we have tended and nurtured. So, because we have the space, we're going to plant them all, which doesn't seem so bad as we're planting. We weren't thinking about what might happen if they all lived and produced. We were still feeling our lack of real summer tomatoes from last year. Since all the varieties we grow are indeterminates (they keep growing), they need to be staked or "hung." We learned of this hanging method from Elizabeth Keen when we were members of the amazing Indian Line Farm CSA. So, Stephen and I built a long, 50-ft. "trellis" from saplings. We hang a piece of twine from the trellis to the ground for each plant. We gently tie the twine to the base of the plant and wind the plant around the twine. As the plant grows, we continue to wind the tip around the twine and prune the sucker shoots. The other half of the tomato plants we staked and velcroed to the stake. We grew this many, one, because we couldn't bear to give up any of our seedlings and

*Wendy and Stephen's tomato trellis. (Photo Stephen Moore)*


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two, because we are aiming to have our own tomatoes, in some form, to last us through the winter. We can salsa, tomato puree, tomato conserve. Some of our favorite fresh tomato recipes include tomato, mozzarella, and basil salad, Stephen's fresh tomato sandwiches with mayonnaise, oregano, salt and pepper, fresh salsa, and cut up on pasta with fresh pesto.

Needless to say, we had an amazing tomato crop last year. Not only the tomatoes but all of the usual veggies that go well with tomatoes: onions, peppers (red, green, orange), garlic, zucchini, and basil. We had baskets piled high with all of the above on the kitchen floor and counters. We were deep into canning when my mother told me about someone making a tomato sauce by roasting. This was a lifesaver for us. It eats up a lot of the produce. We now call this our Tomato Glut Sauce. We froze our Glut Sauce in plastic bags and used it on our homemade pizza mostly, but also on pasta or as a base for soup. Delicious!

### Tomato Glut Sauce

This really isn't an exact recipe but simply guidelines for using up the abundance in your garden.

Tomatoes: Remove tops/core/bruised spots and squeeze excess juice from tomato. Cut into quarters. About 8 cups of quartered tomatoes.

Peppers: Chopped as fine as you'd like, 1 pepper, more if you have a great supply.

Onions: Sliced into half moons, 1 large.

Garlic: 2–4 cloves chopped.

Zucchini: Cubed. About 1–2 cups, depends on how big your pile is or none at all is fine.

Basil: (optional) ½ cup chopped fresh.

Oregano: (optional) One stem of fresh leaves, chopped.

Parsley: (optional) ¼ cup chopped fresh.

Olive Oil: I never measure but maybe 3–5 Tablespoons

Salt & Pepper: To taste. Can be added after cooking.

Toss all of the ingredients in a large bowl with the olive oil. Spread into a glass or stainless steel low-sided pan, at least a 9 x 13 inches, but a hotel pan works great. Bake at 300 degrees for at least 3 hours (I bet we do 4–5) or until desired moisture content. We will often shut off the oven in the evening and let the sauce remain in the oven until morning. Let cool and pack into plastic freezer bags as is or run through food processor if you prefer a smooth sauce.

Happy Eating! Thanks for the zucchini recipes. I'll have to find a way to publish them.

—Wendy G. Jensen, wendygj@gmail.com

## Otis Cultural Grant Deadline Oct. 15

Otis Cultural Council (OCC) has received funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is now accepting applications for grants. We welcome a variety of artists and musicians from the Massachusetts area who can provide entertainment, workshops, or classes for 2012.

Applications for grants are also available online at www.mass.culture.org and must be mailed to the Otis Cultural Council, Otis Town Hall, Box 237, Otis MA 01253, postmarked no later than October 15, 2011.

For further information, call Arlene Tolopko (269-0220), Chair, OCC. Email: Otiscc@hotmail.com.

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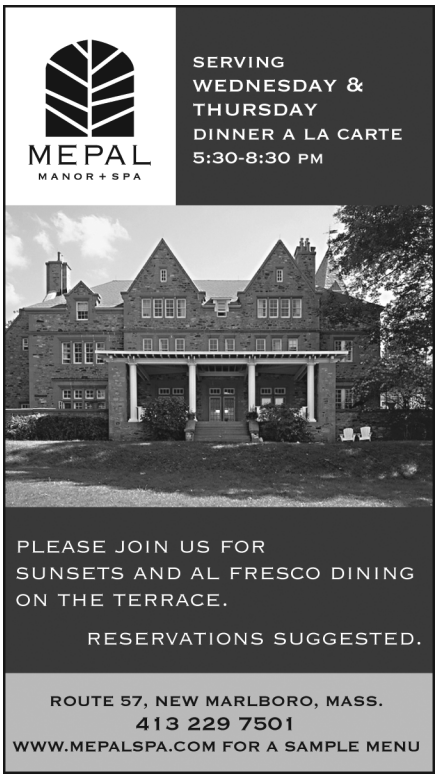

*Jana Laiz, author of* Weeping under This Same Moon, *signing copies of her book at library's July 29th book sale as part of Monterey Reads. (Photo: Jean Germain)*

## Contributors

We thank the following folks for their recent contributions. Your support keeps us going.

Lawrence Heald
Chandler Crawford
Steven & Risa Aronson
Susan & Peter LeProvost
Frank D'Amato
Nancy Fliesler
Dave & Donna Dempsey
Carlo Romairone
June Thomas
Anonymous
Paula Hartstein
Diana Deacon
Maria Reveley & Phil Kampe
Hy Rosen

## Calendar

**Every Monday except holidays**: Select Board meeting, Town Hall. Start time 6 pm (note new start time).

**Every Sunday**: Slow-pitch Softball, 10:30 am, Greene Park. Everyone welcome.

**Every Tuesday**: Zumba Class, 5:30–6:30 pm, Monterey Firehouse. $10/class.

**Saturday, September 3**:

Annual Lobster Fest Fundraiser (rescheduled from August 28), Berkshire Fish Hatchery, 2 pm, Hatchery Road, New Marlborough. $65. Information, tickets 528-9761.

Tour of Bidwell House Redware Pottery Exhibit with Colta Ives, 10 am, Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road. $15 ($10 for members), which includes tour of museum. See p. 9.

Classical concert by Goldberg Trio, Music & More, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting house, Rt. 57. Tickets $25/$20.

**Friday, September 9**: Free Blood Pressure Clinic with Berkshire Visiting Nurse Assoc., Town Hall Meeting Room, 2–3 pm.

**Saturday, September 10**:

Opening reception for exhibition of Maureen Banner's painting, sculpture, and silverwork, 7–9 pm, Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. See p. 10.

Growing Vegetables for Four Seasons Workshop with Stephen Enoch, Gould Farm's Garden Team Manager, 1–4 pm, Gould Farm. Sponsored by Berkshire Botanical Garden. $22 for Botanical Garden Members, nonmembers $27. Information, registration: 413-298-3926. See p. 14.

Jazz, Wine, and Food, Music & More, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House. $25/$20. See p. 19.

**Sunday, September 11**: 10th Anniversary Memorial of 9/11 terrorist attacks, 1 pm, Monterey Firehouse.

**Saturday, September 17**:

Flora And Fauna of the Bidwell Forest: A Walking Seminar with Tim Flanagan, 10 am, Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road. $15, which includes tour of museum. See p. 9.

Music & More concert by The Apollo Trio, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House. $25/$20, students with ID and children with parents free. Information

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Peace Conference, Festival, & Concert, 9:00 am–5:30 pm, concert by Paul Winter at 7:30 pm, at Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield. Co-sponsored by Center for Peace through Culture. See p. 15.

**Sunday, September 18**: Historical Walk along Forgotten Colonial Road in Beartown State Forest with Bernard Drew, 1 pm. See p. 9 for details.

**Friday, September 23**: Showing of documentary film by Gerry Curtis on Japan earthquake/tsunami and survivors' stories, 7 pm, Monterey Library. Gerry will be on hand for discussion. Free. See p. 8.

**Saturday, September 24**:

Scarecrow Workshop with Maureen and Michael Banner, 10 am, Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road. $15 ($10 for members), which includes tour of museum. See p. 9.

Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 pm, Dewey Hall, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, caller David Kaynor. All dances are taught; beginners and children are welcome. Adults $8–10, children $5. Information 528-9385.

A Bob Dylan Celebration with Seth Rogovoy and Ken Regan, featuring a multimedia presentation, tribute concert and photo exhibit, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House. $25/$20, students with ID and children with parents free. Information www.newmarlborough.org or 413-229-2785.

Otis Potluck Harvest Festival, 6:30–8:30 pm, Otis Town Hall. See p. 12.

Used motor oil, oil-based paints, turpentine, stains, and thinners collection, Gt. Barrington Recycling Center, 9–11:30 am. No latex paint. Pre-registration mandatory; call 888-577-8448 x30 or x14.

**Monday, September 26**: Adult book group will discuss *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson, 7:30 pm, Monterey Library.

**Thursday, September 29**:

Flu Shot Clinic, Monterey Town Hall Meeting Room, 1:30–2:30 pm. Open to those 19 years of age and older, no appointment necessary. Wear short sleeves. Free for Medicare subscribers (bring card).

**Saturday, October 1**:

Archaeology on Bidwell Grounds: Native Americans, the First Meeting House, and the Knox Trail, walk led by George Emmons, 10 am, Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road. $15 ($10 for members), which includes tour of museum. See p. 9.

Music & More Panel Discussion: Award-winning authors Andrew Hacker, Claudia Dreifus, Bruce Murkoff, and Tracy Kidder, hosted by Mitchel Levitas, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House. $15/$10, students with ID and children with parents free. Information www.newmarlborough.org or 413-229-2785.

**Saturday, October 15**: Deadline for Otis Cultural Council grant applications; call 413-269-0220 or email: Otiscc@hotmail.com for applications. See p. 25.

## *Monterey News*

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is P. O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be left in the drop box on the loading dock of the General Store. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4347 or e-mail montereynews9@gmail.com.

## The Observer
### July 26–August 25

| | |
|---|---|
| High temp. (8/7) | 83° |
| Low temp. (8/23) | 46° |
| Avg. high temp. | 76.2° |
| Avg. low temp. | 56.1° |
| Avg. temp. | 66.2° |
| Total rainfall | 7.53 in. |

Rainfall occurred on 17 days.

*Note: Rainfall total does not include the 6.59 in. brought by Hurricane Irene on August 28.*


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*Contributions from local and guest artists this month:*
*Pat Arnow, p. 12; Maureen Banner, p. 25;*
*George Emmons, p. 20; Bonner McAllester, p. 18.*

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